

STATEMENT-II

State-wise number of large cement plants in operation

State	No. of Cement Plants
Delhi	1
Haryana	2
Punjab	1
Himachal Pradesh	4
Jammu & Kashmir	1
Rajasthan	14
Uttar Pradesh	5
Bihar	5
Orissa	3
West Bengal	2
Assam	1
Meghalaya	1
Tamil Nadu	8
Andhra Pradesh	17
Karnataka	8
Kerala	1
Maharashtra	7
Gujarat	11
Madhya Pradesh	23
Total	115

*[English]***Nidhi Companies**

3260: SHRI K. PARASURAMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have exempted the Nidhi Companies from the interest rate ceiling on deposits;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such exemptions is likely to affect the business of other financial institutions particularly the banking sector; and

(d) if so, the steps the Government propose to take to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India had announced certain policy measures on 24th August, 1996 granting freedom to Nidhi Companies to fix their own rate of interest on deposits selectively on a case-to-case basis subject to compliance of certain conditions. RBI had issued a press release on 15.1.1997 giving further relaxations. Nidhi Companies for

the purposes of fixing up their own rate of interest on deposits have to comply with the following conditions:-

- (i) The Nidhi company has complied with the directions contained in Government of India, Department of Company Affairs Notification No. GSR. 773 (E) dated December 4, 1995.
 - (ii) The net owned fund of the Nidhi company is positive as on March 31, 1996.
 - (iii) The Nidhi company is and will be in a position to repay the amount of its liabilities including the interest payable to the depositors as and when their claims arise.
 - (iv) The ratio of net owned fund to incremental deposit liabilities over the deposit liabilities as on January 15, 1997 of the Nidhi Company does not exceed 1:20 as on the date of the application. However, such of those Nidhis which are maintaining net owned fund to deposit ratio of 1:20 or less as on January 15, 1997 should continue to maintain a ratio not exceeding 1:20 on the aggregate deposit liabilities.
 - (v) The compliance with the above requirements should be certified by the Nidhi company's statutory auditors, being the member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.

Seizure of Gold and Foreign Currency

3261. SHRI AMAR ROY PRADHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of smuggled gold seized by custom officials during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) amount of foreign currency seized during the above period, State-wise and year-wise;

(c) number of arrests made in this regard State-wise and year-wise; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the smuggling of gold and foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*[Translation]***Committee on SSI**

3262. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:
DR. MAHADEEPAK SINGH SHAKYA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government had constituted a Committee headed by Shri T.S. Vijay Raghavan for reviewing the list of items reserved for manufacture in the Small Scale Sector;

(b) if so, the names of other members of the Committee and the subjects referred to the Committee for their suggestions;

(c) whether the Committee was asked to submit its report within a stipulated time; and

(d) if so, the time limit prescribed for submitting the report?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Advisory Committee on Reservation constituted under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, in its meeting held on 28th August, 1995 had appointed a Committee of officials to review the reservation list and submit its recommendations to the Advisory Committee on Reservation from time to time. The Committee was constituted on 17th October, 1995. The Committee consisted of the following Members:-

Shri T.S. Vijayaraghavan, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce.	Chairman
Shri B.D. Jethra, Adviser, Planning Commission	Member
Shri B. Bhanot, Dy. Director General Department of Industrial Development	Member
Dr. Ahmed Masood, Member (Technical), Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices	Member
Dr. C.S. Prasad, Economic Adviser, Office of the Development Commissioner (Small Scale Industries)	Member

Ms. Aditi Ray,
Dy. Economic Adviser,
Department of IP&P

Member

Shri M.C. Singhi,
Dy. Economic Adviser,
Ministry of Industry

Member

Shri Brahm Dutt,
Joint Secretary,
Department of SSI&ARI

Member-Secretary

(c) and (d) The Committee was asked to submit its final report within a period of three months. The Committee submitted the final report in November, 1996 and the same was referred to the Expert Committee on small Enterprises.

Export of Cotton

3263. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of cotton exported during the last three years, country-wise;

(b) the revenue earned by the country from the export of cotton;

(c) the extent to which the domestic prices of cotton and cotton clothes have been affected due to the export of cotton; and

(d) the extent up to which it has affected the export of cotton textiles?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) and (d) A statement is enclosed.

(c) and (d) Export quotas for cotton are announced by the Government after considering all relevant factors, including estimates of production, availability, consumption by the mills, small spinners and non-mill sector, likely surplus, price trends etc. The quota releases help the cotton growers to get remunerative prices, particularly if there has been a falling trend in prices. Variations in the prices of cloth cannot be attributed to the export of cotton because quotas for cotton export are released after taking into account the domestic demand and supply position.

STATEMENT

Country-wise export of raw cotton

Country	1992-93		1993-94		1994-95	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Taiwan	7181	410.27	17288	1217.02		
Japan	203037	11076.72	65519	3348.86	48005	3610.25
Malaysia	14839	848.09	2124	131.49		
Thailand	171402	8116.64	64961	4186.93		